IAP16Rec'dPCT/PTO 15 SEP 2006 10/593181

Docket No.: 13987-00022-US

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Helke Hillebrand et al.

Application No.: National Phase of

PCT/EP2005/002734

Filed: Concurrently Herewith Art Unit: N/A

For: IMPROVED CONSTRUCTS FOR MARKER

EXCISION BASED ON DUAL-FUNCTION

SELECTION MARKER

Confirmation No.: N/A

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS PCT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 8 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 17 of this paper.